

Remarks

Claims 1-58 are currently pending in the Application, Claims 6, 8, 10, 14-29, 35, 37, 39 and 43-54 are herein withdrawn without prejudice from consideration by the Examiner, and Claims 59-92 are newly presented herein.

Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 7, 9, 36, 38 and 56-58.

Summary of claim amendments

This response amends Claim 1 to recite features of Claim 7 found patentable by the Examiner.

This response amends Claim 30 to recite features of Claim 36 found patentable by the Examiner.

This response amends Claim 55 to recite features of Claim 56 found patentable by the Examiner.

This response cancels Claims 7-8, 16-29, 36-37, 45-54 and 56 without prejudice, expressly reserving the right to present these or any other rejected claims or claims directed to other disclosed subject matter in a future divisional or continuation application.

New Claims

This response adds new claims 59-92 to more completely claim the invention.

Support for the new Claim 59 can be found in the original Claims 1 and 9 found patentable by the Examiner. Support for the new Claims 60-72 can be found in the original Claims 2-15.

Support for the new Claim 73 can be found in the original Claims 30 and 38 found patentable by the Examiner. Support for the new Claims 74-86 can be found in the original Claims 31-44.

Support for the new Claim 87 can be found in the original Claims 55 and 57 found patentable by the Examiner. Support for the new Claims 88-89 can be found in the original Claims 55-58.

Support for the new Claim 90 can be found in the original Claims 55 and 58 found patentable by the Examiner. Support for the new Claims 91-92 can be found in the original Claims 55-58.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) Rejection

Claims 1-5, 11-13, 30-34, 40-42 and 55 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Enokihara (U.S. Patent No. 5,459,800).

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 7, 9, 36, 38 and 56-58. Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-5, 11-13, 30-34, 40-42 and 55 and disagree that these claims are unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,459,800. However, in the interest of moving this application to issue, Applicants have amended Claims 1, 30 and 55 to include limitations of Claims 7, 36 and 56, respectively, found patentable by the Examiner in the Office Action and cancelled Claims 7, 36 and 56 without prejudice, expressly reserving the right to present these or any other rejected claims or claims directed to other disclosed subject matter in a future divisional or continuation application.

New Claims

Applicants submit that new independent Claims 59, 73, 87 and 90 are patentable over the cited art because they recite limitations of Claims 9, 38, 57, 58, respectively, found patentable by the Examiner in the Office Action.

Applicants further submit that Claims 60-72, 74-86, 88-89 and 91-92, at least based on their dependency on Claims 59, 73, 87 and 90, respectively, are also patentable over the cited art.

Withdrawn claims

The Examiner has withdrawn Claims 6, 8, 10, 14-29, 35, 37, 39 and 43-54 from consideration. Although Applicants canceled withdrawn Claims 8, 16-29, 37 and 45-54 without prejudice, expressly reserving the right to present these or any other rejected claims or claims directed to other disclosed subject matter in a future divisional or continuation application, Applicants did not cancel withdrawn Claims 6, 10, 14-15, 35, 39 and 43-44 because they depend from amended Claims 1 and 30, respectively, that are patentable over the cited art. Hence, Applicants respectfully request that Claims 6, 10, 14-15, 35, 39 and 43-44 be allowed.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendments Commissioner for Patents POB 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

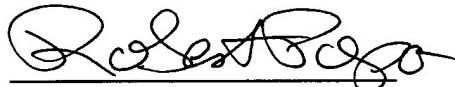
September 5, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Aileen Shrestha
(Name of Person Signing)

(Signature)

September 5, 2006
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Popa
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 43,010
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300

Encls:
Fee for the excess claims;
Postcard